

**EMT-II REGULATORY TASK FORCE
MEETING MINUTES
January 13, 2005
Burbank Hilton Airport Hotel
Burbank, CA**

I.Introductions

Self-introductions were made.

MEMBERS PRESENT	EMSA STAFF PRESENT	ALTERNATES PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	ALTERNATES ABSENT
Cliff Flud Ruth Grubb Bruce Haynes Kelly Lazarus Bonny Martignoni Tom McGinnis Stephanie Rasmussen Kevin White	Sean Trask Julie Hamilton	Louis Bruhnke	Deb Aspling Debbie Becker Steve Drewniany Ron Grider Lisa Howell Frank Maas Robert May Kathy Ochoa Ed Pendergast John Pritting Vicki Stevens Janet Terlouw Tim Williams	Howard Fincher Lawson Stuart

II.Minutes:

Approved as written

III.Agenda:

Approved with the following change:

The addition of a new item IV titled, "Updates," and the Old Business, New Business and Discussion items renumbered to V., VI., and VII., respectively.

IV. Updates:

A. National Scope of Practice

The EMT-II Task Force Members were updated on the National Scope of Practice discussions and handed two matrices regarding the four levels that are under discussion (first responder, EMT-Basic, paramedic and advanced practice paramedic). The Task Force members were also handed an article that appeared in the JEMS magazine titled, "Bledsoe's EMS Scope of Practice Model," dated December 12, 2004. The matrix summarized the scope of practice and hours of training for each level. The EMT-II Task Force members were asked to inform their respective groups about these discussions and provide the EMS Authority with guidance as to the direction that California will take in these national discussions.

B. National Registry of EMTs Rollout Meeting Schedule:

The EMS Authority met with representatives of the National Registry on January 10, 2005 to plan the statewide rollout of the National Registry EMT-Basic examination to meet the January 1, 2006 deadline. The idea was to complete these rollout meetings in time for training programs to prepare

for the Fall semester. A tentative schedule of eight regional National Registry Rollout meetings throughout California was planned, those tentative meeting dates and locations are:

1. March 14, 2005, San Bernardino Area
2. March 15, 2005, Bakersfield Area
3. March 16, 2005, Fresno Area
4. March 17, 2005, Salinas Area
5. April 4, 2005, Sacramento Area
6. April 5, 2005, Santa Rose Area
7. April 6, 2005, Eureka Area
8. April 7, 2005, Redding Area

Once the meeting rooms are confirmed, the EMS Authority will notify all of the usual constituent groups and ask those constituent groups to distribute that information to a broader audience in order to get participation.

- C. One of the Task Force members asked if the Southern California Task Force meetings could be held in the Ontario area because that location is closer for him to travel. The Task Force members present agreed to move the Southern California meetings to the Ontario area. Stephanie Rassmussen offered to look into a meeting location.

V. Old Business:

Definition of Rural Area:

The Task Force members asked for additional time to discuss with their respective groups. Some of the constituent groups have not had an opportunity to have discussions of whether or not to include a rural definition. The Task Force members also wanted to see the results of the LEMSA survey regarding the interest in EMT-IIs to the need of EMT-IIs which will also assist in deciding on whether to include a rural definition. One recommendation was to allow the local EMS system make the decision of utilizing EMT-IIs based on legislative intent.

VI. New Business

Scope of Practice:

The Task Force had a philosophical discussion on the Scope of practice of an EMT-II.

The California Council of EMS Educators expressed a concern with the modular approach, specifically in an individual accredited in multiple modules has an adverse action against one module, how would that affect the other modules that the individual is accredited in.

EMDAC will need to discuss the issue of whether to have multiple defined modules or one basic module such as the Imperial County Trial study module and list the other scope of practice items as optional and allow the local EMS system to select the optional scope of practice items that meet the needs of their EMS system.

Other concerns expressed by the Task Force were that rural EMS providers have difficulty in meeting their operational and ongoing training requirements. In one EMS system, the base hospitals have the responsibility of approving and providing oversight of the scope of practice for those providers that are assigned to that base hospital which may present some challenges for this EMS system.

The Task Force members want to receive more input from their constituent groups as well as see what the results of the LEMSA survey are to determine what the application will be.

Another issue regarding the use of EMT-IIs is the impact on reimbursement for services. This will impact both public and private providers that bill for their services.

Law enforcement is exploring the option of using EMT-IIs with their tactical teams.

Santa Barbara approved the Imperial County trial study for providers in the urban setting and maintains oversight through the accreditation process for those individuals.

The California Professional Firefighters recommended that a local EMS system submit the issue of utilizing EMT-IIs in their EMS system to their elected boards for review and approval. Some of the Task Force members felt that the issue submitting the EMT-II issue to an elected board would take

the decision of the utilizing EMT-IIs away from the local EMS agency's medical director and placing it in the hands of the elected board.

Discussion

C. Review of Action Items

The constituents need to bring back to the next Task Force meeting:

1. Input regarding whether EMT-IIs will be a rural practitioner.
2. Whether the California Professional Firefighters recommendation of requiring elected boards to review and approve the use of EMT-IIs in an EMS system.
3. LEMSA survey results
4. Whether to divide the scope of practice into modules or have one basic module and leave the other scope of practice items as optional skills.

D. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on February 10, 2005 in Sacramento at the EMS Authority's office

Recorder: Sean Trask